

By Senator Forman

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to health care; providing
intent; creating the Jessie Trice Cancer
Prevention Program within the Department of
Health; providing for funding; providing an
appropriation; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was a community leader and
life-long advocate of improved health care for the poor, and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was the first African-American to
receive a nursing degree from the University of Miami, and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was the first African-American to
serve as director of the Miami-Dade County Health Department,
and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was the first African-American
Chairperson of the Florida State Board of Nursing, and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was Chief Executive Officer of
the Economic Family Health Center, one of Miami's largest
community health centers and the largest employer in Liberty
City, and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice was the Founder and Chairperson
of the Health Choice Network, which has recently been
recognized as a model for integrated service delivery of
health care to the poor, and

WHEREAS, Jessie Trice, after a valiant battle with lung
cancer, passed away in October, 1999, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature
to:

1 (a) Reduce the rates of illness and death from lung
2 cancer and other cancers and improve the quality of life among
3 low-income African-American and Hispanic populations through
4 increased access to early, effective screening and diagnosis,
5 education, and treatment programs.

6 (b) Create a community church-based disease-prevention
7 program in conjunction with the Health Choice Network and
8 other community health centers to build upon the natural
9 referral and education networks in place within minority
10 communities and to increase access to health service delivery
11 in South Florida.

12 (c) Establish a funding to build upon local private
13 participation to sustain the operation of the program.

14 (2)(a) There is created the Jessie Trice Cancer
15 Prevention Program, to be located, for administrative
16 purposes, within the Department of Health, and operated from
17 the community health centers within the Health Choice Network
18 in South Florida.

19 (b) Funding will be provided to develop contracts with
20 community health centers and local community church-based
21 education programs to provide cancer screening, diagnosis,
22 education, and treatment services to minority populations
23 throughout the state. Pilot programs will be initially created
24 in the communities of Goulds, Naranja, Coconut Grove, Liberty
25 City, and East Little Havana in Dade County and Dunbar in Lee
26 County.

27 Section 2. The sum of \$750,000 is annually
28 appropriated from the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund to the
29 Department of Health to fund the program created by this act.

30 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Creates the Jessie Trice Cancer Prevention Program and provides for funding.